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SHE'S JUST SO FREEGAN GREAT

ELLEN PAGE EXPLAINS HOW PRACTISING 'FREEGANISM' IN A VILLAGE IN OREGON HELPED THE ACTRESS PREPARE FOR HER LATEST ROLE AS AN ECO-ACTIVIST PAGE 18

Major development being planned for RM of Sherwood

736 acres. Wascana Village would include residential, recreational, commercial components for 14,000 people

ROSS ROMANIUK
ross.romaniuk@metronews.ca

It might become a small city, just outside the city.

A district immediately beyond Regina's southeast boundary is planned for a so-called "mega-project" of homes, commercial properties and schools that could accommodate about 14,000 people to "work, live and take part in the amenities" to be developed there, the Rural Municipality of Sherwood announced on Thursday.

Great Prairie Development Corp., based in southern Ontario, has teamed with Sherwood officials to plan the 736-acre Wascana Village project including houses, townhomes, apartments, a supermarket and recreational zones such as lakes and cycling paths.

"The absorption rate for the entire 736 acres, we feel, will be 10 to 13 years," Daniel Schmid, Great Prairie's president, said while unveiling the plan at a downtown Regina hotel.

"We want it to be a healthy, phased growth. If we could do it in eight years, fantastic."

The entire development, which Schmid said could ultimately cost approximately $2 billion, is targeted for land "under contract" for the project and currently used partly for farming.

Though Sherwood is fully behind the development, Schmid noted that a sewage treatment facility would be part of the project and require approvals by the provincial government and likely consultations with the City of Regina.

"If we can get provincial approval by the end of the summer, we have a plan to begin construction of the sewage treatment plant in the spring of next year," he explained, adding that the plant could be built in about three years, along with "probably 75 per cent" of the project's first phase.

"If the City of Regina wants to work with us and sell us the water, we're more than happy to work with them."

The details were laid out after nearly a week of tension between Regina and Sherwood over the city's plan to annex large tracts of the RM in order to handle its continuing rapid growth.

"We are open for business. Our intention is to ensure steady and well-thought-out development, like Wascana Village," Tim Probe, the RM's deputy reeve, said before downplaying Regina's pending involvement in the project.

"There will be consultative processes, but the final approval will come from the RM of Sherwood."

WHERE THE WORLD MEETS

A dancer performs at the Brazilian pavilion on Thursday night as part of Mosaic: A Festival of Cultures. The festival goes until Saturday night and has 21 pavilions across the Queen City representing various countries. Story, page 4. ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

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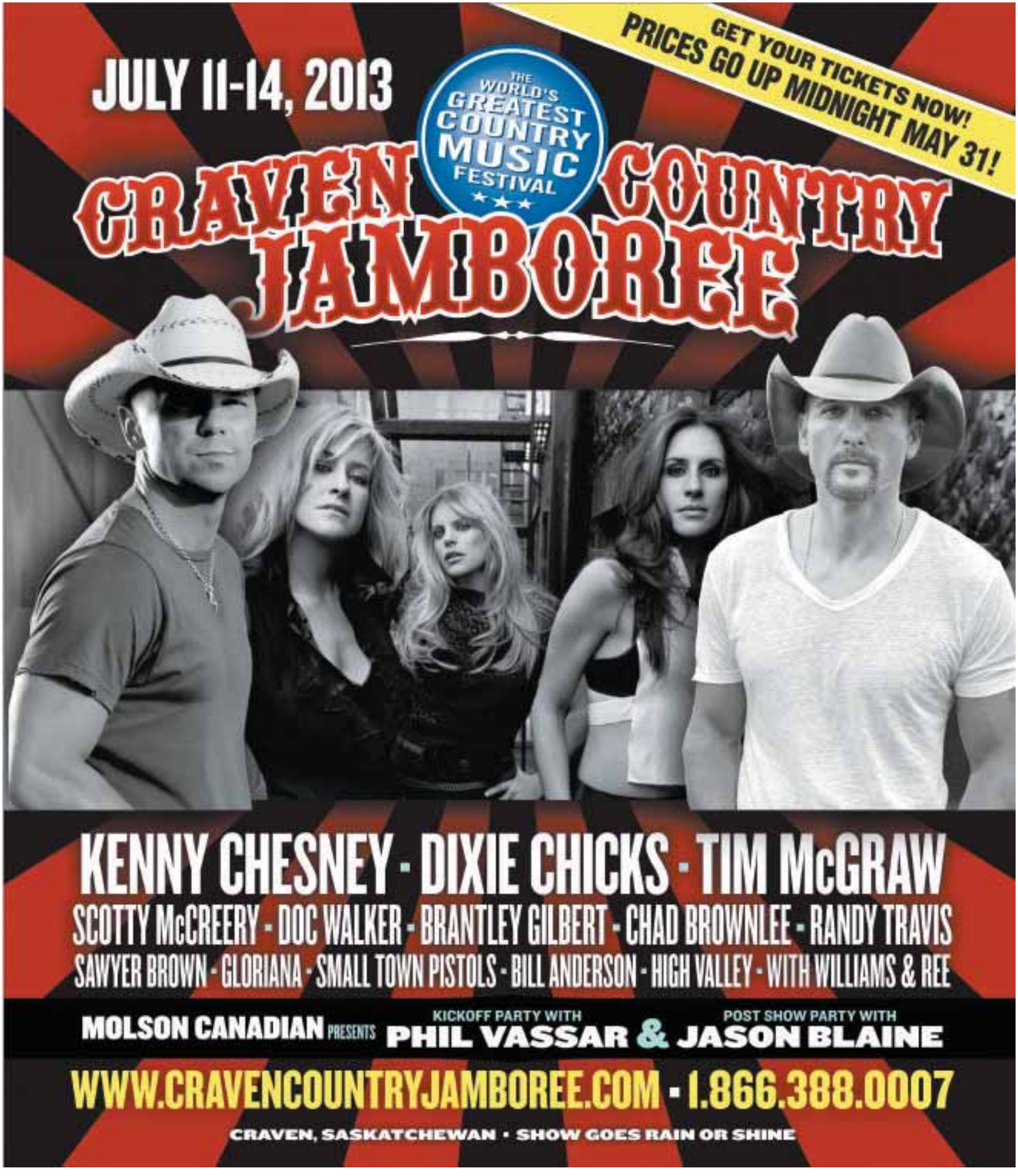
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Kid's hospitals get $5M boost

Donation. Company gives millions to five children's hospitals across Western Canada

JANE CAULFIELD
Metro in Saskatoon

The value of happy and healthy children was felt across Western Canada after Saskatchewan-based Federated Co-operatives Limited announced Thursday a donation of $5 million to the five children's hospital foundations between Manitoba and British Columbia.

"Like you, we care about our children, our families and our communities," said Scott Banda, CEO of Federated Co-operatives Limited (FCL). "That is why we support the five children's hospital foundations and the work they are doing to provide an environment that offers compassion and support to children and their families during some of the most difficult times in their lives."

Banda highlighted the donation as the largest the FCL has ever made, adding it builds on the success of a three-year partnership between the FCL, the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

Saskatchewan's health minister Dustin Duncan was at the announcement made at the FCL's headquarters in Saskatoon on Thursday.

"In true co-operative fashion, FCL has stepped up today to meet a demonstrated need. Not only here in Saskatoon, but across Western Canada," said Duncan. "This strong community-orientated organization clearly recognizes the value of investing in the health of our children."

Formula

Using a special formula, the Federated Co-operatives limited divided the donation fairly, allocating the following region-wide gifts:

- $550,000 to B.C. Children's Hospital Foundation
- $825,000 to the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation in Calgary
- $825,000 to Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation in Edmonton
- $1.7 million to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan
- $1.1 million to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba

The 2010 Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan Champion Nadya Keenan shares a moment with the Foundation's president and CEO, Brynn Boback-Lane. Nadya was born with a birthmark diagnosed as Segmental Hemangioma, a benign tumour which puts her at risk for complications, including blindness, ulceration and heart failure. JANE CAULFIELD/METRO

Anti-bullying initiative

Have your say on stopping bullying

Saskatchewan residents can have their say on ways to stop bullying in the province.

Public and online consultations start Monday as the government looks for ideas on anti-bullying strategies.

Saskatoon member of the legislature Jennifer Campeau, who is responsible for the anti-bullying initiative, says it's important to work together to find solutions.

In April, the Saskatchewan government and the Opposition NDP unanimously passed a motion that they hope will help stop cyberbullies. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Other regions doing better

Regina lagging behind in surgical wait times

The Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region needs more time to meet the Saskatchewan government's goal for surgery wait times.

Health Minister Dustin Duncan says new numbers show 90 per cent of surgeries were completed in six months — that's within the third-year target for the province's surgical initiative.

But Regina Qu'Appelle is lagging behind other health regions at 79 per cent.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Five-month investigation

Suspect arrested in homicide

A 36-year-old Fort Qu'Appelle man has been charged with second-degree murder in the death of Delvin Charles Mike in Regina last Dec. 31.
METRO

World is coming to Regina this weekend for the Mosaic festival

Diversity. Mosaic: A Festival of Cultures has been inviting people to learn about other countries for decades

ALYSSA MCDONALD
alyssa.mcdonald@metronews.ca

Twenty countries are making Regina their home for Mosaic's festival weekend.

Fiery performances, traditional dances and home-style cultural cooking are just three of the reasons to travel around the city and stop in at any of the 21 pavilions.

"We call their pavilions their homes," said Julene Summerfield, Mosaic co-chairwoman and vice-president of the Regina Multicultural Council (RMC).

"When they open the door to their homes, it gives people the chance to go in and just see what their culture is."

Mosaic: A Festival of Cultures has been inviting people to learn about different countries for 46 years, and has become a staple event for culture in Regina. Ranging from Europe to East Africa to South America, each pavilion has its own history, its own flair and, of course, its own menu.

"They get to experience, for three days, at least 20 countries of the world," said Summerfield. "The food brings them back. The entertainment brings them back."

With the recent growth of Saskatchewan — particularly with new Canadians making the province their home — we're seeing a larger festival. Mosaic has two more pavilions than it did last year.

Summerfield said the RMC has seen a growth in membership and has encouraged new cultural groups to watch established pavilions to get a sense of the time and manpower it takes to run one.

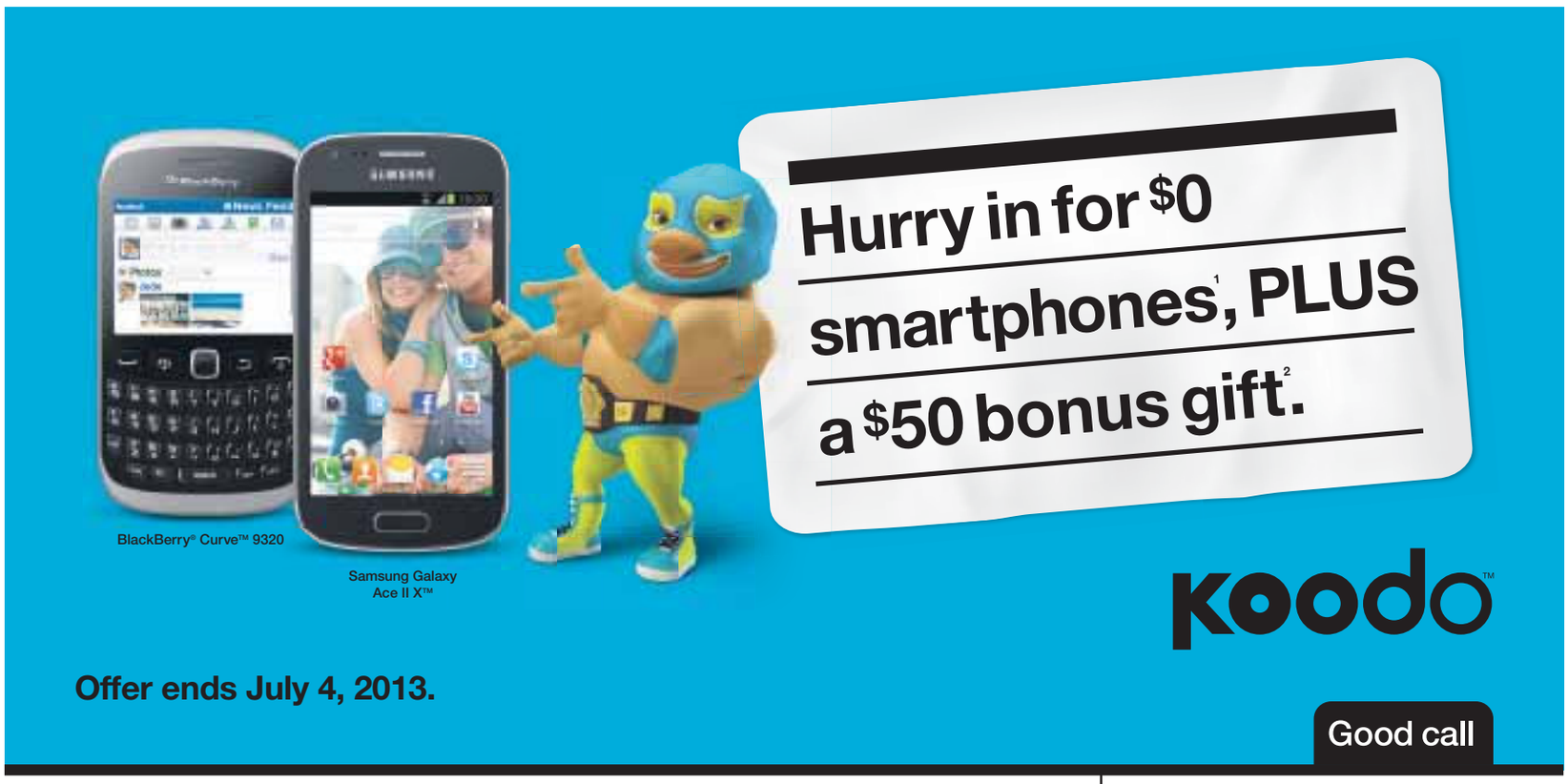
"When they are ready, we expect to see some new pavilions," said Summerfield.

The festival runs Thursday from 5 to 11:30 p.m., Friday from 5 p.m. to midnight and Saturday from 2 p.m. to midnight. Shuttle buses are available to pavilions starting from the Regina Inn.

Passports for admission to all pavilions are priced at $14 for adults and $9 for youth and seniors.

Check out the map on the Metro Regina website or at reginamulticulturalcouncil.ca.

Two young dancers perform in traditional garb at the Poltava Ukrainian pavilion on Thursday night as part of the Mosaic festival. ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO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Despite fresh allegations and loss of staff, Ford is 'doing fine'

Status d'oh. T.O. mayor keeps cool despite new reports he said he knew where alleged video was

Rob Ford brushed aside questions on Thursday about a new claim that he knew the whereabouts of an alleged crack cocaine video in another chaotic day that saw two more aides leave.

As the storm continued to rage, Toronto's defiant mayor said he's "not stepping aside."

Repeatedly asked about the allegations, Ford simply said: "Anything else? Anything else?"

That left his brother, Coun. Doug Ford, to denounce a Toronto Star report — which did not name its sources — that alleged the mayor told senior aides not to worry about the video purportedly showing him smoking crack because he knew where it was.

"This is the Toronto Star trying to keep the story alive," Coun. Ford said.

"In my opinion, we have a disgruntled employee, ex-employee I should say, that obviously is upset that's thrown these false accusations out."

The mayor had already parted ways with three key staff members since the scandal erupted two weeks ago.

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne expressed concern Toronto residents were losing confidence.

"The mayor needs to deal with his personal issues," Wynne said. "The lack of having dealt with them is creating a lot of that confusion."

"The premier should take care of the problems she has at Queen's Park right now," Ford shot back. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nothing to see

"I'm running in the next election. Things are going great and we're doing fine."
Toronto Mayor Rob Ford

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford has lost a total of five staff members since the scandal broke. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Nabbed in Alberta

Second arrest in killing linked to the scandal

Police said a second arrest has been made in the March killing of a Toronto man believed to be seen with Ford in a photo linked to the crack video scandal.

Police said Hanad Mohamed, 23, was arrested last week in Fort McMurray, Alta., in the death of Anthony Smith and was to appear in court in Toronto on Friday charged with first-degree murder.

Nisar Hashimi, 23, was arrested in April and also faces first-degree murder charges in Smith's death.

Ford has said he is photographed with many people and doesn't know them all. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Would you be able to tell if Ford is fibbing?

Human beings make poor lie detectors — our gut feelings lead us astray, and we tend to rely on false stereotypes about shifty-eyed liars.

"Most people perform around the level of chance accuracy on a lie-detection task — the same accuracy as would be expected simply by flipping a coin," said Leanne ten Brinke, a postdoctoral fellow at UC Berkeley, in an email interview.

Ten Brinke studies deception. In her doctoral thesis at University of British Columbia Okanagan, she tested our ability to detect high-stakes lies — specifically, televised pleas for the safe return of a missing loved one, comparing genuine pleas to those of people later found to have killed the missing person.

The genuine pleaders expressed sincere sadness on their faces and gave relatively long pleas, she said.

The liars had difficulty appearing genuinely sad; instead their faces showed subtle smiles and surprise.

"Because many of the muscles in our face are not under strong voluntary control, they could not bring their eyebrows upward and together, as occurs in genuine sadness. Instead their eyebrows only came upward — making them appear surprised," ten Brinke said.

Her best advice is to throw away stereotypes about liars — especially that they will look shifty or look in a certain direction when lying.

Instead, observers should look for inconsistencies in verbal, facial and body language behaviours and look for "leakages" of genuine emotion.

Asked about finding the truth in the ongoing Rob Ford crack video scandal, ten Brinke said her research can be a great tool for investigative reporters and offered this advice: "If you notice some suspicious behaviour, you probably want to question the person further about that topic — they could be hiding something that you might be able to reveal if you know which topics warrant further questioning."

JESSICA SMITH/METRO IN TORONTO

China. Miracle boy rescued from sewer pipe released to grandparents

The mother of a Chinese baby boy who was rescued from a sewer pipe beneath a restroom shortly after birth is unlikely to face criminal charges because authorities concluded he fell into the toilet accidentally, local officials and media reports said Thursday.

The baby was released from a hospital to his maternal grandparents late Wednesday, while his mother, 22, remains under medical care. The infant was rescued from a pipe underneath a squat toilet in Zhejiang province. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An accident, say police

The mother raised the alarm about the baby when he got stuck Saturday in a pipe below a toilet in a restroom. But she had cleared away signs of a birth and did not immediately come forward as the mother.

The baby rescued after being trapped in a sewage pipe. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tunisian Femen activist fined; more charges pending

Protesters at the courthouse in Kairouan, Tunisia. NAWFEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Amina Sboui. Activist went into hiding due to death threats; now she's accused of writing 'Femen' on a cemetery wall

A court convicted the Tunisian member of the Ukrainian feminist group Femen Tuesday for carrying an "incendiary object" and fined her $182.

She remains in custody pending more serious charges.

Supportive dad

"I am proud of my daughter, who has honoured the rights of women." **Mounir Sboui, Amina's father,** who made the comment in an interview and was in court to support her.

Amina Sboui, who posted topless photos of herself online as part of a women's rights protest, attempted to carry out a new protest on May 19 in the religious centre of Kairouan. She was arrested and charged with carrying a canister of pepper spray.

Prosecutors on Thursday, however, said they are considering bringing more serious charges against her, including desecrating a cemetery and offending public decency, according to defence lawyer Mokhtar Jannene.

Sboui will appear in court again June 5.

Outside the court, about 200 protesters, including many religious conservatives, chanted slogans against Sboui, accusing her of attacking the city and insulting Islam. They also shouted insults at the defence lawyers and accused them of "sullying" the image of the city, a centre for religious pilgrimage. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Harper keeps quiet about handling of unfolding scandal

Ottawa. PM has failed to address questions about how he directed staff to deal with expense issue last fall

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is steadfastly refusing to acknowledge any question about his leadership during the months last winter when an expense scandal involving three of his Conservative Senate appointees was in the public eye.

Harper has spent the past three days insisting that he first learned that his chief of staff had helped pay off Sen. Mike Duffy's $90,000 in improper expense claims only after the public was told by CTV in mid-May.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper
THE CANADIAN PRESS

But he has failed to address questions about how he instructed his staff to handle the expense revelations after they first aired late last fall.

Neither Harper nor his NDP and Liberal counterparts were in question period Thursday, so it fell to Heritage Minister James Moore to bear the brunt of the opposition onslaught.

"Duffy keeps the $90,000 while the Receiver General gets $90,000 from an illicit deal that was so wrong it cost Mr. Wright his job," said Liberal MP Ralph Goodale. "Will the government repudiate the dirty money and instead garnishee Duffy's wages and seize his assets so he pays for his wrongdoing, not some deal-maker in the PMO?"

Harper faced more than 40 direct questions on the affair in the House of Commons this week but has not provided any information on who in his office was asked to handle the scandal, what instructions they were given, or why his chief of staff took it upon himself to give $90,000 to a senator accused of improper housing expense claims.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Syria. Foreign affairs minister urges political solution to violence

Reports of a Russian arms shipment to the Syrian regime and the rejection of peace talks by opposition groups raised fears Thursday that international efforts to bring an end to the civil war in Syria are at risk.

A political solution is the only way to end the violence, Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird and his German counterpart stressed Thursday after bilateral talks in Ottawa.

Both men expressed concern over reports that Syrian President Bashar Assad received Russian anti-aircraft missiles.

"Syria has received the first shipment of Russian anti-aircraft S-300 rockets," Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV quoted Assad as saying. The Syrian leader added: "All our agreements with Russia will be implemented and parts of them have already been implemented."

Baird called the reports regrettable, if true, while German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle characterized the development as unappreciated.

The U.S. and Russia were to meet this week in Geneva to hash out a plan to get both sides together for peace talks, but the Syrian National Coalition, a major opposition group, suggested that for now there's no place for talks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Arms race

The shipment of the missiles, if confirmed, comes just days after the EU lifted an arms embargo on Syria, paving the way for countries to send weapons to rebels fighting to topple Assad's regime.

- The concern with the influx of weapons isn't just about them making it into the wrong hands, but also the start of an arms race between opposition groups and the Assad government and the spillover of the conflict into the rest of the Middle East.

Biological information

Supreme Court won't hear woman's appeal to ID sperm donor

The Supreme Court of Canada will not hear an appeal from a woman who wanted to know the identity of her sperm-donor father.

Olivia Pratten sought to take her case to the high court after the British Columbia Court of Appeal threw out an earlier decision that sided with her.

She argued that offspring like herself should have access to information about their biological past, as is the case with people who are adopted.

The appeal court said she has no constitutional right to information about her biological father.

The court said providing such information would amount to state intrusion into the lives of many people.

As usual in such decisions, the Supreme Court gave no reasons for refusing to hear the appeal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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They run this town, for better or worse

With Toronto Mayor Rob Ford making headlines across the globe, we take a look at some of the scandals (or lack thereof) facing mayors in Metro cities across Canada. See how your city compares.

METRO CANADA

Edmonton

After serving nearly three terms, Mayor Stephen Mandel has remained relatively squeaky clean in terms of scandalous behaviour. He has, however, received criticism as the primary driver behind the new downtown Edmonton arena deal, a $600-million, primarily publicly funded deal that critics argue benefits a billionaire owner.

Winnipeg

Mayor Sam Katz came under fire earlier this year after a local businessman sued him for conflict of interest when he hosted a city staff Christmas party at his restaurant. Last week, he came under fire for spitting out his gum onto a lawn.

Toronto

The latest in a string of Mayor Rob Ford scandals started with the Toronto Star and Gawker reporting that there is a video appearing to show Mayor Rob Ford smoking crack and muttering "I'm f---ing right-wing;" calling Justin Trudeau a "fag;" and calling the high school football players he coached "just f---ing minorities."

Halifax

Unlike his predecessor, the current mayor of Halifax is so far scandal-free. The only whiff of controversy came just after Mike Savage was sworn in, when he revealed he used his campaign funds to pay himself a $10,000 monthly stipend for the three months after he quit his regular marketing job to run for office. It didn't contravene any campaign financing laws.

Vancouver

In the fall of 2008, then mayoral candidate Gregor Robertson took some heat when it was discovered that he had a $173 unpaid fine for travelling two zones on SkyTrain on a one-zone fare. Robertson had planned to challenge the fine, but ended up paying it ahead of the civic election – which he won handily.

Regina

Regina Mayor Michael Fougere is squeaky clean, having been in office for about seven months.

Ottawa

Mayor Jim Watson, a self-described "boring" mayor, has been criticized for engaging in semi-frequent "Twitter fights" with outspoken constituents.

Saskatoon

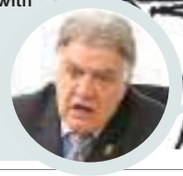
When first elected as mayor in 2003, Saskatoon's Don Atchison caused a stir when he insisted that people – from residents to media to office staff — had to dress in semi-formal (as in, a tie) attire to meet with him in his office.

Calgary

In 2011, popular Calgary mayor Naheed Nenshi accepted a flight to Toronto paid for by a private company to speak at a symposium. No conflict of interest was found. This year, many raised eyebrows at a $400-per-ticket, closed-to-public event Nenshi held to launch his upcoming civic campaign.

London

Mayor Joe Fontana was charged in November with fraud under $5,000, breach of trust by a public officer and uttering forged documents after an RCMP investigation. He is accused of using a $1,700 federal government cheque to cover a room deposit for his son's 2005 wedding reception. Fontana denies the allegations, which have not been proven in court.



Montreal

Montreal is currently governed by interim mayor Michael Applebaum, pictured, who took power after Gérald Tremblay resigned in November amid the Quebec corruption inquiry. There was testimony that Tremblay was aware of his party's alleged illegal financing and price-fixing in the construction industry, but did nothing to stop it. Tremblay denies he was aware of wrongdoing.

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Trip to Mars comes with radiation risks

Long voyage. Readings by U.S. rover find astronauts would face a raised cancer risk if they went to the red planet

Astronauts travelling to and from Mars would be bombarded with as much cosmic radiation as they'd get from a full-body CT scan about once a week for a year, researchers reported Thursday.

That dose is enough to raise their cancer risk by about 3 per cent, but experts caution that there are many uncertainties about the space environment's effects on the body.

As plans for deep space exploration ramp up, radiation is a big concern — from high-energy galactic cosmic rays spewed by distant supernova explosions to sporadic bursts of charged particles hurled by the sun. Earth's magnetic field helps to deflect much of that harmful radiation.

The U.S. space agency, NASA, aims to send a crew to orbit the red planet by the mid-2030s. Private outfits like Inspiration Mars — backed by NASA engineer-turned-space tourist Dennis Tito — are seeking volunteers for a Mars flight.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"You want to get there as quickly as possible (to reduce radiation exposure.)"

Don Hassler, scientist in charge of the radiation instrument aboard Curiosity

Astronauts travelling to and from Mars would be bombarded with cosmic radiation, researchers say. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ NASA/FILE

Austria

Flaming car gets drive-in service at fire station

Some Austrian firefighters didn't have to leave their station to deal with a recent alarm. The blaze came to them instead.

Fireman Roland Brandl says that colleagues were doing chores at the station in the town of Pregarten Wednesday when a car sped in with flames shooting from beneath it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greece

Lawmaker's gun accidentally fires at airport check-in

A Greek extreme far-right lawmaker who wanted to travel with his licensed handgun on a domestic flight drew unwanted attention after the firearm accidentally went off during check-in procedures Thursday. Police said nobody was hurt in the incident in a secluded area of Athens International Airport.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Power and politics

A man lifts weights during lunch hour on Parliament Hill, Thursday. Canada's capital reached 28 C Thursday, and was expected to top 30 C on Friday. FRED CHARTRAND/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Dragged alongside car. iPhone robbery leaves Toronto actor battered

A Toronto actor faced a case of life imitating art Tuesday when he was the victim of a violent smartphone theft.

Jeff Hanson, who is currently in a play about random violent attacks, was walking home from a performance when a car pulled up. The driver asked to borrow his iPhone, and immediately after Hanson leaned into the window and handed him his phone, the man stepped on the gas.

"I had a fight-or-flight reaction," recalled Hanson, who grabbed onto the inside of the car as the man sped off.

As the car travelled south on Bathurst, the driver swerved around a vehicle and into oncoming traffic, Hanson said. After about a block and a half, Hanson said the driver began speeding toward a parked car.

"I knew if I didn't let go, he was going to pin me between (the parked car and his vehicle) and that could have been really bad," said Hanson. "So I let go and started rolling."

Jeff Hanson in hospital after Tuesday's incident. COURTESY JUNE MITTLER

Hanson, 29, is recovering in hospital with a mild concussion and deep bruises and cuts to his face and chest. Despite complications caused by blood between his skull and brain, he's expected to make a full recovery.

"I realize I was lucky. Everyone who saw the accident and has spoken to me here ... is surprised that I'm doing as well as I am."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ikea monkey's 'mom' in court to get him back

Darwin. Abuse allegations dropped as Toronto lawyer describes unusual bond with 'son'

A primate sanctuary is no longer alleging that the Ikea monkey was abused by the woman who calls herself his "mom," who wept in court Thursday as she described her bond with her "son."

Yasmin Nakhuda took her monkey, Darwin, everywhere, she testified. Nakhuda, a Toronto real-estate lawyer, took him to work, the gym, shopping, to a wedding, and brought him in the shower with her.

She took him to an Ikea in December, locked his crate in the car and told him she would be right back. But Darwin escaped and ran around the parking lot. Toronto Animal Services scooped him up and sent him to Story Book Farm Primate Sanctuary in Sunderland, Ont.

Nakhuda sued the sanctuary to get Darwin back, alleging she was tricked into surrendering the monkey. The case is not a custody battle — rather, Nakhuda is suing for recovery of property.

She has gone to court twice to get Darwin back. At one hearing the sanctuary alleged she had abused the monkey, by "strangling" him and hitting him with a wooden spoon.

At the outset of the trial Thursday, Kevin Toyne, the lawyer for the sanctuary, said it was withdrawing those allegations in the interest of keeping the trial short. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"Having Darwin ... was like the chance to experience motherhood again ... I treated him like my son."

Yasmin Nakhuda, Darwin's owner

Yasmin Nakhuda arrives at Durham Region Courthouse on Thursday. BERNARD WEIL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Boston bombing. Mother of remaining suspect says son is now walking

The remaining suspect in the Boston Marathon bombings has recovered enough to walk and assured his parents in a phone conversation that he and his slain brother were innocent, their mother told The Associated Press on Thursday.

Meanwhile, the father of a Chechen immigrant killed in Florida while being interrogated by the FBI about his ties to the slain brother maintained that the U.S. agents killed his son "execution-style."

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 19, walked without a wheelchair to speak to his mother last week for the first and only phone conversation they have had since he has been in custody, Zubeidat Tsarnaeva said from her home in Makhachkala, Russia.

In a rare glimpse at Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's state of mind, he told her he was getting better and that he had a very good doctor, but was struggling to understand what happened, she said.

Defending their sons

- The Tsarnaevs' parents have held firm to their belief that their sons were framed. Zubeidat Tsarnaeva, dressed all in black and still visibly distressed, showed AP several YouTube videos on an iPad she claimed cleared her sons. They could not be authenticated by the AP.

"He didn't hold back his emotions either, as if he were screaming to the whole world: 'What is this? What's happening?'" she said.

The April 15 bombings killed three people and wounded more than 260.

The elder brother, 26-year-old Tamerlan Tsarnaev, was killed in a shootout with police, and Dzhokhar remains in a prison hospital after being badly wounded.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taking aim. Letter to Obama similar to other threatening letters

A suspicious letter mailed to the White House was similar to two threatening, poison-laced letters on the gun-control debate sent to New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, one of the most potent advocates of stricter gun laws in the U.S., officials said Thursday.

The Secret Service said the letter was addressed to U.S. President Barack Obama and was intercepted by a White House mail-screening facility. Two similar letters postmarked in Louisiana and sent to Bloomberg in New York and his gun-control group in Washington contained traces of the deadly poison ricin.

It wasn't immediately clear whether the letter sent to Obama contained ricin. It was turned over to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force for testing and investigation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A suspicious letter mailed to U.S. President Barack Obama was similar to two poison-laced letters sent to New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, officials said. MANDEL NGAN/GETTY IMAGES

Truxton, N.Y.

Seven killed in New York crash

A minivan carrying two families was hit by a runaway trailer hauling crushed cars in upstate New York, killing four young children and three adults in their early 20s, authorities said Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

England

Soldier stabbing suspect appears in London court

A prime suspect in the vicious slaying of British soldier Drummer Lee Rigby sat handcuffed in a London court Thursday, given permission not to stand up before a judge because of wounds sustained when he was shot by police.

Michael Adebowale, 22, confirmed his name, address and date of birth as the investigation into the shocking killing entered its courtroom phase.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S.-Saudi Arabia

Man gets 25 years in plot to kill ambassador

A man who admitted that he plotted to kill Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the United States by bombing a Washington restaurant was sentenced Thursday to 25 years in prison.

Manssor Arbabsiar, a U.S. citizen who was born in Iran, pleaded guilty in October to two conspiracy charges and a murder-for-hire count.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Safe countries'

Canada makes changes to asylum system

Chile and South Korea have been added to a list of so-called "safe countries" in an effort to streamline refugee applications. Canada considers those countries unlikely to produce actual refugees.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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"Number one student job site" according to DECODE's "Canada's Top Campus Employers 2012" survey, not including online campus career centre job posting sites. "Number one job site" based on six-month average online job postings for period ending April 30, 2013. Comparison between Workopolis and all other major paid online job boards. Does not include online classified sites or job posting aggregator sites. Statistics provided by WANTED Technologies. © 2013 Workopolis.

Taliban withdraw offer for peace talks

Pakistan. The drone killing of the group's deputy leader also puts attention on U.S. policy

The Pakistani Taliban withdrew their offer of peace talks Thursday, following the death of the group's deputy leader in an American drone attack, a spokesman for the group said — a blow to the incoming government of Nawaz Sharif that was elected partly on promises to restore security after years of deadly attacks.

The death of Waliur Rehman, wanted by the U.S. for a 2009 attack in Afghanistan that killed seven CIA workers, also focuses attention on the controversial U.S. drone program. Despite President Barack Obama's sweeping promise last week of new transparency, Wednesday's strike against a longtime American target shows the CIA will still launch attacks on militants without having to explain them publicly.

The announcement by the Pakistani Taliban came amid conflicting reports about whether the Islamic militant movement had selected a replacement for Rehman, who was killed Wednesday in an attack that Pakistani officials said left at least four others dead.

Taliban spokesman Ahsanullah Ahsan told The Associated Press in a call from an undisclosed location that the militants withdrew an offer to join peace talks because they believe the Pakistani government approves of the U.S. drone strikes, despite official statements to the contrary.

In this 2011 photo, Taliban No. 2 commander Waliur Rehman talks to the Associated Press along the Afghanistan border in Pakistan. Pakistani intelligence say a U.S. drone has killed Rehman. ISHTIAQ MAHSUD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

"We had made the offer for peace talks with the government with good intention but we think that these drone attacks are carried out with the approval of the government," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

El Salvador. C-section OK'd for severely ill woman

El Salvador's government gave permission Thursday for doctors to perform a premature delivery for a seriously ill woman whose pregnancy attorneys say is putting her life at risk.

The case of the 22-year-old woman known only as Beatriz has drawn international attention as she sought to end the pregnancy in a country with some of the strictest abortion laws in Latin America.

The move by Health Minister Maria Isabel Rodriguez came a day after the Supreme Court ruled that Beatriz, who is six months pregnant, could not have an abortion even though she suffers from lupus and kidney failure. Ultrasound images indicate that her fetus is developing with only a brain stem and is given no chance of surviving.

Because the pregnancy is 26 weeks along, abortion laws are no longer at play, according to women's groups who have supported her petition. Rather, the health ministry can determine what's most medically sound for the mother versus the unborn baby.

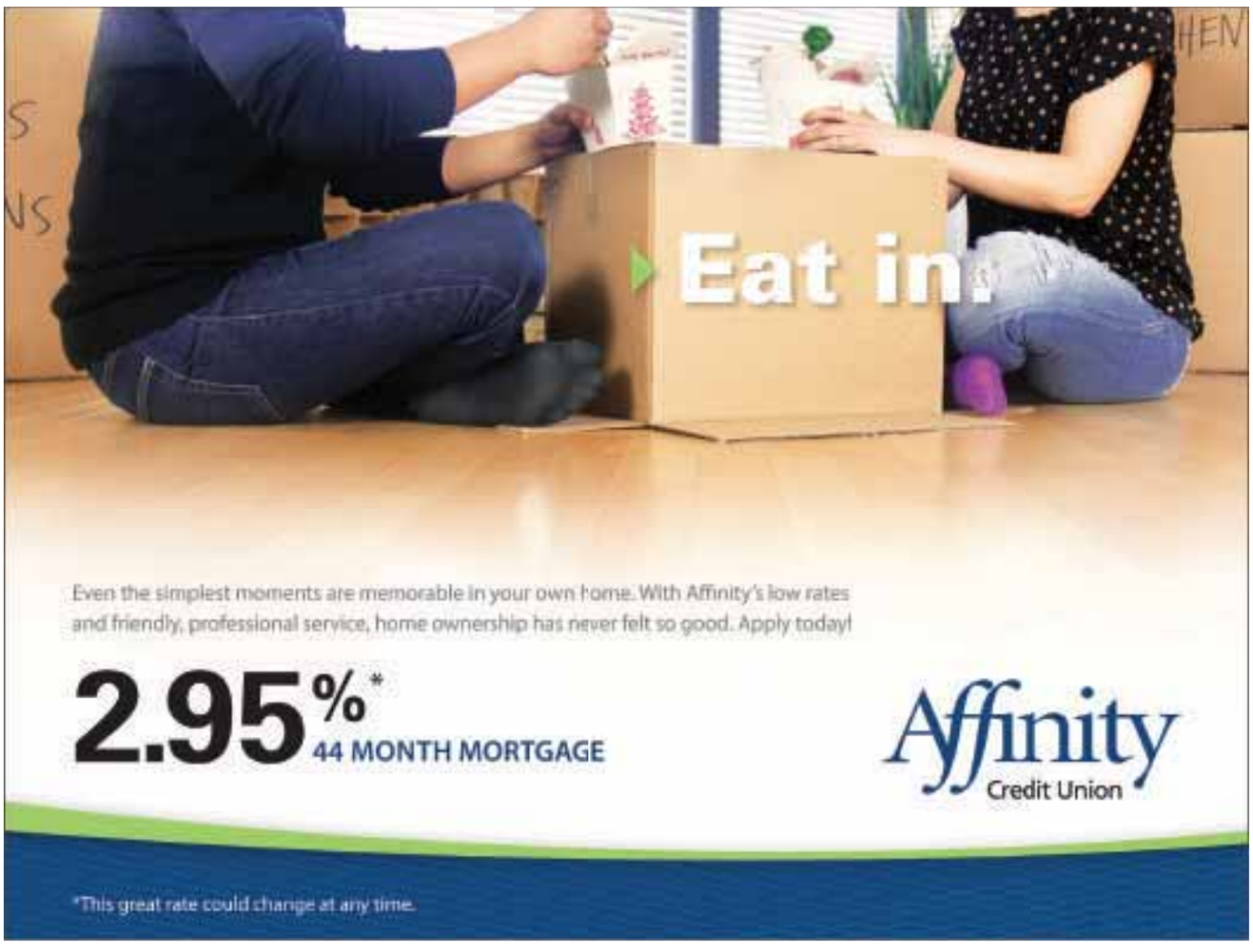
The Supreme Court said physical and psychological exams done on the woman by the government-run Institute of Legal Medicine found that her diseases are under control and she can continue the pregnancy.

The judges voted 4-to-1 to reject the appeal by the woman's lawyers, who argued that continuing with the pregnancy put her life at risk. Amnesty International called the decision "cruel and callous."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

El Salvadorian law

The law prohibits all abortions, even when a woman's health is at risk, and the woman and doctor who terminated her pregnancy would face arrest and criminal charges.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Nigeria

Gay-marriage ban sets sentences of up to 14 years

Nigeria's House of Representatives voted to ban gay marriage and outlaw groups supporting gay rights. It wasn't immediately clear if the president would sign the measure, but gays already face ridicule and possible prison sentences. Under the proposed law, couples who marry could face up to 14 years in prison. Anyone who helps them marry could be sentenced to 10 years, as can those showing affection in public. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syrian civil war

Assad 'confident in victory'

Syrian President Bashar Assad said in an interview broadcast Thursday that he is "confident in victory" in his country's civil war, and he warned that Damascus would retaliate to any future Israeli air strike on his territory. Assad also told the Lebanese TV station Al-Manar that Russia has fulfilled weapons contracts, but was vague on whether this included advanced S-300 air defence systems.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Who's in the money? Canada's bank CEOs

Executive pay. A list of the highest-paid bankers on the continent includes heads of 6 Canuck banks

Canadian bankers were among some of the highest-paid banking executives in North America last year, with three in the Top 10, according to a new list compiled by Bloomberg Markets magazine.

In all, six Canadian bank CEOs were in the Top 20, led by the Royal Bank of Canada's Gordon Nixon, who came in at No. 4. Nixon's total pay package was $12.6 million US in 2012 according to the listings, up 25 per cent from the year before, when he was in eighth place.

Bank of Nova Scotia's Richard Waugh was bumped down one spot to seventh place, with $11.1 million US, followed by TD Bank's Ed Clark, who was No. 8 on the list with $10.8 million US.

Most overpaid

- The Bloomberg Markets magazine rankings also put RBC's Gordon Nixon, Bank of Nova Scotia's Richard Waugh and TD Bank's Ed Clark among some of the most overpaid CEOs when comparing compensation to a bank's average assets, stock performance and return on equity.

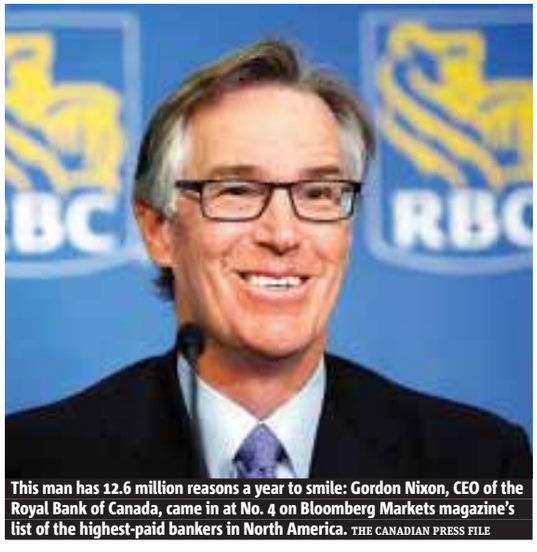
Clark's pay actually went down by almost five per cent from the year before, when he was at No. 5, as did that of three other Canadian bank CEOs on the list.

Gerald McCaughey, CEO of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, took home $9.3 million US, nearly eight per cent less than the year before. That was still good for 11th place, but down from ninth in 2011.

The Bank of Montreal's William Downe — No. 12 — took in $9.2 million US, seven per cent less than in 2011, when he ranked No. 10 on the list.

National Bank of Canada chief Louis Vachon rounded up the Canadian bankers on the list at No. 17 with $7.2 million US. That was 1.4 per cent less than he made in 2011, when he held the 14th spot.

The rankings are being published in the magazine's July 2013 issue. THE CANADIAN PRESS



This man has 12.6 million reasons a year to smile: Gordon Nixon, CEO of the Royal Bank of Canada, came in at No. 4 on Bloomberg Markets magazine's list of the highest-paid bankers in North America. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Brussels. EU wants to abolish roaming charges across bloc by next year

A top European Union official says mobile phone network operators should be forced to end charging customers for data roaming when travelling across the 27-nation bloc.

European Commission Vice-President Neelie Kroes told the European Parliament on Thursday the roaming fees should cease to exist by next year.

The Commission, the bloc's executive arm, has already cracked down on roaming charges for international cellphone calls. It has also mandated lower maximum ceilings for data roaming costs, but bills for using the Internet on mobile devices when travelling in Europe still rise quickly.

Kroes said abolishing data roaming fees will be another step to accomplishing the bloc's single market, saving citizens and companies money. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Super Size Me. McDonald's CEO dines at the Golden Arches 'every single day'

They might start calling it the McDiet. McDonald Corp.'s CEO Don Thompson revealed at an analyst conference this week that he shed about 20 pounds in the past year by getting his "butt up" and "working out again."

But he said he hasn't changed his habit of eating at McDonald's "every, single day."

Thompson, who has been on the job for less than a year, was responding to a question about how the world's biggest hamburger chain is adapting amid growing concerns about obesity.

Thompson said he lost the weight by getting active again. He noted that Europeans walk a lot and it's rare to see Europeans who are "very, very heavy."

"And so I think that balance is really important to people," he said. Thompson did not provide any other details about his weight or diet. A representative for McDonald's did not immediately respond to a request for more details.

The remarks come as fast-food chains and packaged food companies face criticism about making products that fuel obesity rates. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

McDonald's CEO Don Thompson, shown in 2010, says he's lost 20 pounds in the last year by working out — but he still eats at McDonald's daily.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

CAW-CEP merger

Private-sector mega-union to be called Unifor

Labour leaders say they've chosen a "modern, strong, innovative" name to unite workers in what will become Canada's largest private-sector union, part of a branding effort they hope will help bolster their ranks.

The result of the merger of the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada and the Canadian Auto Workers will be called Unifor, leaders announced Thursday at a news conference in Toronto. Its logo will be a white U on a red shield, a symbol of the "strength, protection and security" the union will provide, they said.

The new union will represent more than 300,000 workers across roughly 20 sectors of the economy. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Backtracking

With Windows 8.1, Microsoft is out to appease long-term users

Microsoft is trying to fix what it got wrong with its radical makeover of Windows. It's making the operating system easier to navigate and enabling users to set up the software so it starts in a more familiar format designed for personal computers.

The revisions to Windows 8 will be released later this year. The free update, called Windows 8.1, represents Microsoft's concessions to long-time customers taken aback by the dramatic changes to an operating system that had become a staple in households and offices around the world. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

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TSX 12,746.55 (+13.95)

OIL $93.61 US (+48¢)

GOLD $1,412 US (+$20.20)

Natural gas: $4.03 US (-15¢)
Dow Jones: 15,324.53 (+21.73)

IS FORD BUILT TO LAST MUCH LONGER?

THE METRO LIST
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

It's that time again, when we arm you with the week's top stories and send you out, bristling with informed confidence, to the water cooler.

1 **Rob Ford? Wasn't he the mayor of Toronto?** He still is, maggot. But for how long? The rats are fleeing for the emergency exits — five personal staffers have bailed and the week's not over. Who's next? His barber? Meanwhile, the mayor keeps doing his bizarre tribute to the Black Knight from Monty Python and the Holy Grail, denying there's a video out there featuring him getting Ford-faced on crack. It's just a flesh wound!

2 **Moses' got nothing on this kid:** Alone and afraid, a woman in China gave birth to a baby boy on the toilet. Apparently, baby slipped down the drain and the new mom called the Chinese equivalent of 911. Miraculously the infant was rescued from the sewer pipe. From where he's starting, everything going forward is good news.

3 **We're number three!** The OECD (don't bother looking it up) has determined that Canada is the third happiest nation on earth. Number two is Sweden, which is always in our face, and number one is Australia. Throw another shrimp on the barbie! Criteria include work-life balance, income, housing, and something called the Mick Jagger Factor, or "satisfaction" for short. Canada gets the happiness bronze medal instead of the gold; after all, Rob Ford is still the mayor of Toronto. Just wait until next year, maggot.

4 **The rich get richer:0** Sure it's a cliché, but boy it's true. According to the World Bank, the world's richest eight per cent snag 50 per cent of the world's income. Here's one reason the Democratic Republic of the Congo did not place in the top 15 of the world's happiest nations: its annual income is $231. Compare that to Monaco, where it's $171,465. If I were trying to make ends meet in the Congo, this news would not make me happy.

5 **Attack of the Killer Beaver:** Here in the world's third happiest country, the beaver is a symbol of cheerful industry and diligence, not to mention the nation's founding fur. In Belarus, the beaver is just another nasty rodent. Some guy tried to have his picture taken with one, which bit him, severing an artery in his leg. The poor guy bled out. Now Belarus is trying to figure out what to do about an increasing population of increasingly aggressive beavers. There are 80,000 beavers in Belarus. Who knew?

6 **Speaking of Biebers:** Another iconic Canadian rodent was in the news this week, this time for racing around the 'hood in his hot car, scaring the neighbours and fuelling the paparazzi. Call in the Bieber control officers. This kid is out of control.

ZOOM

Monk's best friend

PAUL BROWN/REX FEATURES

The Tiger Temple: Where monastery meets sanctuary

Under the cool shade of a tree, a Buddhist monk affectionately embraces a tiger. Elsewhere at the Tiger Temple in Kanchanaburi, Thailand, a young tiger was spotted happily playing around in a pool of water with a fascinating new toy. There are some 100 tigers at the temple which live alongside monks. Founded in 1994, the animal reserve is based at a Buddhist temple. The first cub arrived in 1999 after her mother was killed by poachers nearby. **METRO**

Critics: An illegal breeding facility

The attraction is a controversial one, as animal rights groups claim it is an illegal breeding facility and that the tigers are not cared for properly. However, a three-day investigation by ABC News did not find any evidence of poor conditions. **METRO**

Quoted

"If you think they rescue abused tigers, or that the tigers will be released into the wild, they won't be."

Philip Mansbridge, CEO of animal welfare charity Care for the Wild

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Are you fed up with how useful and informative your Twitter feed is? You can easily take a few steps toward correcting that by following these accounts for a rich vein of occasionally bizarre, but always witty, wordplay.

@dogsdoingthings: I'm tempted to say the name says it all, but it barely scratches the surface of this account's vision of dogs engaged in impossibly high-concept activities, usually with a disdainful eye cast upon their alleged best friend (that would be us.)

@twortmanteaus: A portmanteau is the sometimes awkward collision of two words to make a new one. Think "brunch." For other examples, follow this character who spends the day RTing miscellaneous musings from tweeters, creating new words from their tossed off thoughts.

@dataisplural: Puns tend to be a love or hate thing. If you hate them, you're wrong. If you love them, congratulations on your excellent taste and don't waste another second before following this champion of groan-inducement.

Comments

RE: More Staff Leave Mayor Rob Ford's office, published May 30

Re staff leaving...this doesn't make sense; when considering that fish rot from the head. So doesn't the solution goes without saying? **Lloyd A, posted to metronews.ca**

The only one that should be thrown out of city hall is Rob Ford!!! ASAP!!! The man is a disgrace to the city of Toronto. **punxie89, posted to metronews.ca**

Wait, so he actually admitted to there being a video, and even knowing where it was? If that's true, it's no wonder his staff members are fleeing. **Alison, posted to metronews.ca**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
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Synopsis

In Will Smith's new sci-fi movie After Earth he stars as Cypher Raige, a general in the intergalactic peacekeeping organization Ranger Corps. After he is injured in a crash landing on Earth, a planet uninhabited for 1,000 years, his son (Jaden Smith) must navigate the unfamiliar landscape and battle new life forms to signal for help. This week the Reel Guys have a look at the highlights of Will Smith's career and how he left his throne as the prince of Bel-Air to become one of the world's biggest movie stars.

Will Jaden Smith follow in his famous father's footsteps? HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Why we love Will

After Earth. As Smith and son's new film opens this weekend, the Reel Guys reflect on the actor's journey from Fresh Prince to king of Hollywood

Richard: Mark, The Fresh Prince Of Bel Air proved that Will Smith has a flair for broad comedy, so it's surprising that over the years he's played so few funny roles. He's always charming and his films usually have the odd laugh, but rarely has he played it strictly for laughs. In 1993 the safe move for Smith would have been to make a comedy, instead he chose to play a con-man in the serious, talky Six Degrees of Separation. It's a heavyweight role, and he's really good in it. What's your favourite Will Smith role?

Mark: Will Smith must be the most likeable Hollywood star this side of Tom Hanks. I wish I could say I like all his movies, but I can't. I really like his more serious roles. My favourite? The Pursuit of Happyness. His character, based on a true story, is a man caught in desperate financial circumstances, who raises a young boy while homeless. The movie is ultimately uplifting as he becomes a successful stockbroker, but it's a harrowing journey, and Smith plays it to perfection.

RC: In 2008 he played two creatures that don't exist in real life, an alien with an anger management problem and an IRS tax collector with a conscience. Hancock has a dash of Men in Black's wonky humour, a glimpse of his action hero of Independence Day, and a taste of Enemy of the State's troubled paranoiac. Best of all there is absolutely nothing in there that echoes Wild Wild West. In Seven Pounds he's a taxman crushed by the weight of his emotions, a walking zombie who has given up on life. And he's terrific in both movies.

MB: Hancock didn't quite work for me, but Enemy of the State sure did. But I'm such a troubled paranoiac myself I might have liked anybody in the role. Smith is great in Seven Pounds, a weird picture by any standards. But if it's Will Smith as hero you're looking for, he's commanding in all 157 minutes of Ali. And he's suave and debonair in Hitch.

RC: We can't forget Men in Black. The sequels have been (profitable) disappointments, but Smith's Agent J is always fun.

MB: Now that I think of it, if Will Smith is in a movie I don't like, it's the movie I don't like, not Smith. And that includes — shudder — The Legend of Bagger Vance.

Save the Children/Sam Tarling

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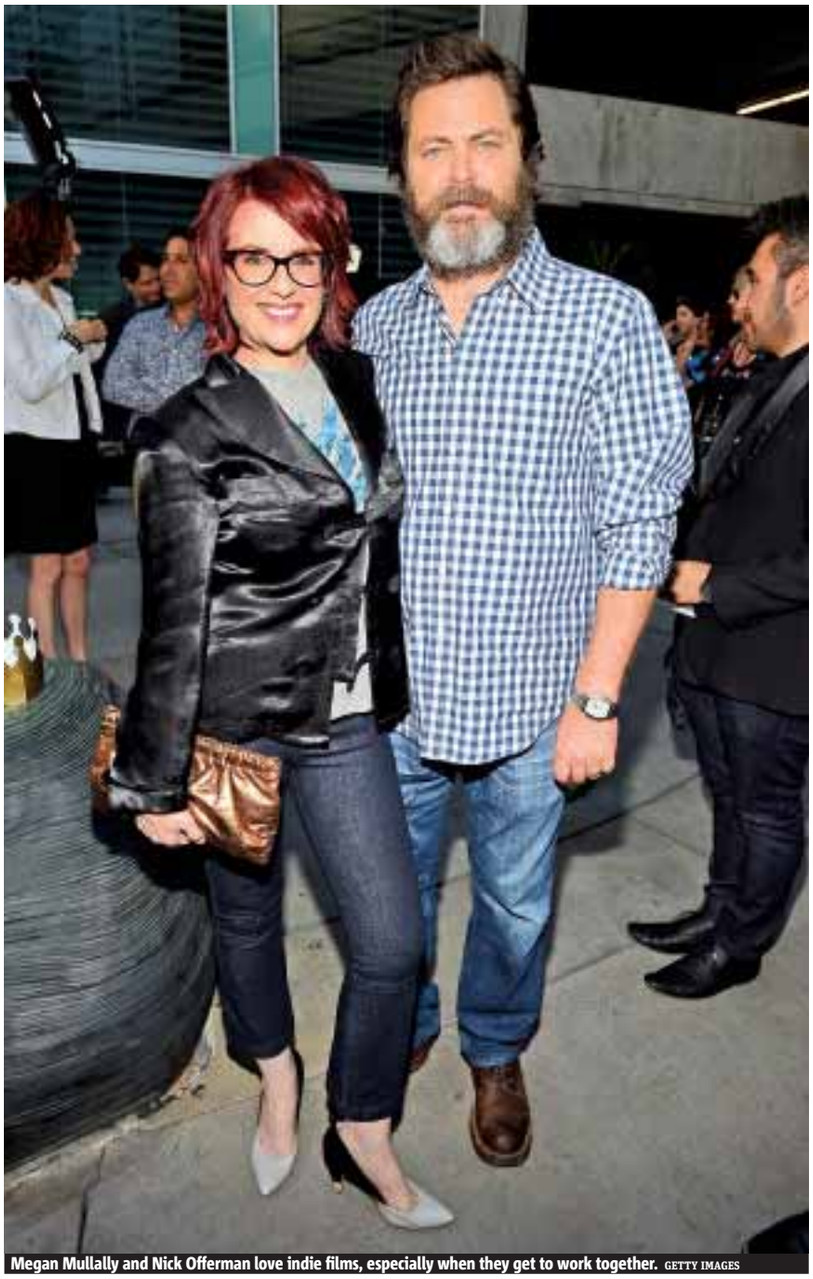
Megan Mullally and Nick Offerman love indie films, especially when they get to work together. GETTY IMAGES

They're one very funny duo

Perfect package.
Megan Mullally and Nick Offerman love working together — it means less time apart

MATTHEW PRIGGE
Metro World News in New York

The dominant power couple in the world shifts at the whim of a fickle populace. Right now, for some, the greatest — or just most wonderful — duo is Nick Offerman and Megan Mullally. Married since 2003, the two have seen a shift in their careers: Once Mullally was the one with the hit show (Will and Grace). Now it's him, as burly libertarian carnivore Ron Swanson on Parks and Recreation — although Mullally has guest appearances as his ex-wife, Tammy. In fact, they tend to work together on the same projects; that way, they don't have to spend any time apart. In The Kings of Summer, Offerman plays the widowed father of a teenager who runs away from home to live in the woods with his bros. Mullally plays the mother of one of his friends, which affords them only a few scenes together.

You've both been doing a lot of smaller films, often together. What's the appeal of these projects?

Mullally: I think we both love doing indie movies. It's kind of the equivalent of the 99-seat play. You have the feeling that you have more creative leeway and you can make it be the way you want it to be. When everyone is on a level playing field and nobody is getting paid, I think everyone pitches in equally and has the same kind of desire to create something good.

Offerman: We choose material, first and foremost, based on scripts that we think are very good. Scripts that don't go through the corporate regime are going to end up better because they'll retain somebody with a beautiful artistic vision and/or a great sense of humour. That will come through in an independent script much more so than a studio project. Those can't help but be homogenized by the standards and practices, the Coca-Cola people.

How did you get involved in Kings of Summer?

Offerman: They were looking for sort of a gruff guy who could also tell a joke and Russell Crowe wasn't available. Chris Colletta's script was poignant, beautiful and heartfelt, but also had a terrific sense of humour. It often happens with Megan and I: One of us gets a job on something and the producers will say, "Can we get your spouse interested in this?" If one of us loves the script, the other is happy to jump on board, too. It also affords us the opportunity instead of spending two weeks apart while out in Cleveland, we're there together and having fun working on it together. There are a lot of perks to it.

Offerman on Kings

The going technique is to go with a really great script and get a really great cast. You have to shoot your scenes as written because you need all the story points. Chris Colletta's script was wonderful and there was no need to embellish it. You happen to have some of the greatest improvisers in the nation of America. You take the script and shoot the scenes and then you say "Let's f— around," and you end up with a handful of gold nuggets that you'd be crazy not to use.

Quality over quantity

"We choose material, first and foremost, based on scripts that we think are very good."
Nick Offerman

To prep for The East, Ellen Page moved west

Eco-activism.
Actress spent time on a settlement that practised 'freeganism' to learn more about her eco footprint

RICHARD CROUSE
scene@metronews.ca

At age 20 Ellen Page became a star playing Juno in the film of the same name. She was nominated for an Academy Award and would go on to make movies like Whip It and Inception, but first she took some time off.

"I studied permaculture, design and eco village development at a place called Lost Valley in Oregon with a lot of people who had the same philosophy — strictly freegan," she says.

Freeganism, or the practice of salvaging discarded food, was just one of the things that fascinated Page during her month-long stay at the settlement. The experience taught her to live more simply and to really think about her relationship with the planet. Her time there also prepared her for The East, a new eco-thriller co-starring Alexander Skarsgård and Britt Marling.

"On top of it being an incredibly beautifully written piece of work, there were so many ideas that I was very excited about and thinking about," she says.

In the film she plays Izzy, a member of a shadowy group of eco-activists called The East — think a more hands-on version of real-life group Anonymous — who live by an anarchist eco code.

"We were able to talk about the experience I had and relate what that does to you as a person when you've been raised with this narrative given to us by the system that exists.

"Then you go experience something that completely flips everything on its head," she says.

"That is a wild ride to go on. Then to walk back out into the world and society, you see things differently."

Ellen Page stars opposite Alexander Skarsgård in The East. HANDOUT

Drama

Now You See Me

Director. Louis Leterrier

Stars. Jesse Eisenberg, Mark Ruffalo, Woody Harrelson

There's nothing quite like a good heist movie, and if you can throw in a bit of sleight-of-hand, all the better. As a film, Now You See Me seems to know it's not supposed to be much more than a good time, and there's nothing wrong with that. Whoever pulled this ensemble together is the real star here. The Four Horsemen (Jesse Eisenberg, Woody Harrelson, Isla Fisher and Dave Franco) take what could've been bad CW drama-level characters and make them imminently watchable.

NED EHRBAR

Sci-fi/Action

After Earth

Directors. M. Night Shyamalan

Stars. Jaden Smith, Will Smith

After his last few attempts (including 2010's The Last Airbender), expectations for M. Night Shyamalan's films couldn't be lower and After Earth likely won't help matters. A vehicle to re-team Will Smith and his son Jaden, this futuristic thriller crashes the pair on a deserted Earth where they must survive ferociously evolved creatures and seek rescue. While Shyamalan fills the film with plenty of eye-catching effects, wooden dialogue and a shortage on soul keeps its audience at arm's length. **STEVE GOW**

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MAY 31 TO THURS., JUNE 6 TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Southland Mall
3025 Gordon Rd.

42 (PG) Fri-Sun 7:40-10:35 Mon-Thu 8:15
After Earth (PG) Fri 6:50-9:35 Sat-Sun 1-3:30-6:50-9:35 Mon-Thu 6-8:50
The Big Wedding (PG) Fri 7:30-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:25-7:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 6:15-9:05
The Croods (G) Sat-Sun 1:05-3:35 Mon-Thu 5:50
Epic (G) Sat-Sun 1:30
Epic 3D (G) Fri 6:45-9:25 Sat-Sun 4:05-6:45-9:25 Mon-Thu 6:05-8:55
Fast & Furious 6 (14A) No Passes Fri 7:20-10:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:20-10:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:45-8:40
The Great Gatsby (PG) Fri 7:10-10:20 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:50-7:10-10:20 Mon-Thu 5:25-8:35 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Hangover Part III (14A) Fri 8-10:30 Sat-Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Mon-Thu 6:20-9 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Iron Man 3 (PG) Fri 7:25 Sat-Sun 12:50-7:25 Mon-Thu 5:40
Iron Man 3 3D (PG) Fri 10:25 Sat-Sun 3:45-10:25 Mon-Thu 8:30
Pain & Gain (14A) Fri 7:05-10:05 Sat-Sun 12:55-3:55-7:05-10:05 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:10
Star Trek Into Darkness (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 12:45-7 Mon-Thu 5:30
Star Trek Into Darkness 3D (PG) Fri 10 Sat-Sun 4-10 Mon-Thu 8:25

Galaxy Cinemas Normanview S.C.
420 McCarthy Blvd. N. Unit

After Earth (PG) Fri 5:30-8-10:30 Sat-Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Mon-Thu 7:55-10:20
Chimpanzee (G) Sun 12:45
Epic (G) Sat 11:45 Sun 12
Epic 3D (G) Fri 4:55-7:30-10:05 Sat 2:20-4:55-7:30-10:05 Sun 2:30-5-7:30-10:05

Fast & Furious 6 HANDOUT

Mon-Thu 7:15-9:50
Fast & Furious 6 (14A) No Passes Fri 6:45-9:50 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:45-9:50 No Passes Mon-Wed 7-10 No Passes Thu 7 No Passes Fri 4:20-7:25-10:30 No Passes Sat 10:25-1:20-4:20-7:25-10:30 No Passes Sun 1:20-4:20-7:25-10:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:30-10:25
The Great Gatsby (PG) Fri 6:50-10 Sat-Sun 12:15-3:30-6:50-10 Mon 6:55 Tue 6:55-10:05 Wed 12:15-6:55-10:05 Thu 6:55-10:05
The Hangover Part III (14A) Fri 4:35-5:25-7-7:50-9:35-10:25 Sat 11:30-12:20-2-2:50-4:35-5:25-7-7:50-9:35-10:25 Sun 2-2:50-4:35-5:25-7-7:50-9:35-10:25 Mon 7:05-9:35-10:05 Tue-Wed 7:05-8-9:35-10:25 Thu 7:05-8-10:25
The Internship (PG) No Passes Thu 10
Iron Man 3 (PG) Sat-Sun 1:15
Iron Man 3 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4:15-7:15-10:15 Mon-Thu 7:35-10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Giulio Cesare Encore (STC) Mon 6
Now You See Me (PG) Fri 4:30-7:40-10:20 Sat 11-1:45-4:30-7:40-10:20 Sun 1:45-4:30-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 7:45-10:30
The Purge (14A) No Passes Thu 10
Shark Tale (G) Sat 11
Star Trek Into Darkness (PG) Sat-Sun 12:50
Star Trek Into Darkness 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4-7:10-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:20-10:15

Kramer IMAX Theatre
2903 Powerhouse Dr.

Flying Monsters 3D (STC) Fri 11-1-7 Sat-Sun 1-7
Jurassic Park: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 3:30-8:15
Rocky Mountain Express (STC) Fri-Sun 2:15

Golden Mile
3806 Albert St.

Escape From Planet Earth (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05
Evil Dead (18A) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat 9:20 Sun-Thu 6:50-9:20
Identity Thief (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:45-6:35-9:15
Oblivion (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:50-6:30-9:05
Olympus Has Fallen (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:50-6:40-9:10
Oz the Great and Powerful (PG) Fri-Sat 1:10-3:45-6:30 Sun-Thu 1:10-3:45-6:30-9:15
Safe Haven (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:55-6:40-9:10
The Sapphires (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-6:45-9:05
Scary Movie V (14A) Fri-Thu 6:50-9:20
Still Mine (PG) Fri-Thu 4
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05

Regina Public Library Film Theatre, 23 11 12th Ave.

56 Up (G) Thu 9
In Your Dreams (STC) Fri 7 Sat 9 Sun 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Tue
The Rep (STC) Thu 7
Wednesday Plus (STC) Wed 7
The World Before Her (PG) Fri 9 Sat 7 Sun 9

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IV Play a rude awakening of a different variety for The-Dream

R&B. Hip hop's premier songwriter goes from racy to ratchet with his brand new album

LAUREN CARTER
Metro World News in New York City

The-Dream says the new project is 'a very vibe-y adult album.' HANDOUT

The-Dream has always been a sex-obsessed R&B genius, but now he's turned things up a notch. On his new album, IV Play, which drops this week, the singer, songwriter and producer isn't afraid to express his desires.

He says the extra dose of risqué talk and bawdy calls for sex are a reflection of where he's at in his life, and where we're at as a society. For the uninitiated, this is ratchet-infused R&B.

"I'd like to think it's a very vibe-y, adult album," says the man born Terius Nash. "I've been out, I've been in clubs so I know we're in the ratchet era of things. I'm sure there's been a lot of ratchetness on my album because of what's been going through our culture, which is a good thing, by the way. The 'ratchet' word sounds like it's negative, but it's actually more free than most R&B songs could be, than pop could be. 'I don't give a f—,' that's basically what it's saying."

If IV Play embraces more explicit come-ons — and a few more drug references — than we're used to, it still boasts the same sound we'd expect from the musical mastermind behind some of the most memorable songs in modern R&B.

The-Dream has crafted megahits for the likes of Beyoncé (Single Ladies, Put a Ring on It), Rihanna (Umbrella) and Justin Bieber (Baby), and racked up multiple Grammy Awards, so it's no surprise that industry heavyweights like Jay-Z, Beyoncé, Pusha T and 2 Chainz appear on IV Play, which rounds out a handful of edgier tracks with sweet serenades and dark, introspective numbers.

Just being honest

"It's like, 'Yo, this is where I am in my life.' I can't make a video or an album for a child that's 16."
The-Dream, on his new, naughtier approach

The wave of ratchet hip-hop may not be the most surprising influence on IV Play, though. You might also hear some classical music making its way into the compositions. The-Dream says it's his favourite genre.

"When those brass horns come in, there's drama tied to that. When the flutes come in, there's some type of majestic feeling that comes over you," he says of the classical compositions he's often listening to. "You're just listening. There's no judgment. It's not 'Yeah, well he sucks, so I'm not listening to whatever his record is or whether he did a magical thing or not or whether that song makes sense.'"

The-Dream says American culture pays more attention to fashion choices and rumours than the most important factor concerning an artist — the music.

"All those genius (composers) were probably kind of crazy themselves, but what we took from them most was that their music was outstanding and they were great at it," he says. "Period."

Forthcoming collaborations

Love vs. money

In addition to finishing up his fifth album (with the title, you'd think IV Play was his fourth) and preparing for the Lights Out tour with Kelly Rowland, The-Dream is collaborating with Kanye West, Beyoncé and Jay-Z. He remains tight-lipped about what those forthcoming collaborations entail.

"I've probably done the least on Kanye's, because he's like a machine like I am and just timing-wise, but I can say I've definitely done a lot of work with Bey and Jay," he says. "It's definitely multiple songs."

DJ Champion returns after recovering from cancer

When Montreal's DJ Champion was diagnosed with cancer three years ago, he felt strangely confident he could fight it. The outlook for his career, however, appeared terminal.

"I gave up on music," said the 43-year-old musician, born Maxime Morin, from his home recently.

"It was very important for me at that time to get better, to just say: 'OK, I'm done with music. As of now, I do not consider myself a musician anymore. I do not consider myself anything. Just a human being trying to stay alive.'

"We're talking about life — my own life," he added. "Don't (mess) with it. So stop pretending to be someone, and just be alive."

He succeeded there, and as the threat of cancer dissipated, Morin re-engaged with music — resulting in last Tuesday's release of the expressive, elegant 1.

But it's easy to understand why this orchestral feat once seemed an impossible dream.

When Morin was diagnosed with Stage 3 lymphoma in spring 2010, his doctor believed he had only about two or three months to live.

But she didn't share that dire prognostication with the Quebec turntable maestro.

"They don't tell you that when you're about to die," he said with a hearty laugh, showcasing the gallows humour that appears to have become second nature.

"If you have a good doctor, they won't tell you. My doctor didn't tell me that. Because the first time I saw her, she was very subtle, very calm."

Morin was to have eight treatments and begin medication. And he was going to survive. "She told me with her conviction ... she was going to heal me, and save me," he recalled. "That's it, that's all. No questions asked.

"I was convinced that it wasn't my time," he added. "Yes, I was going to die, but not that day, not that year, not right now. I was convinced of that."

He was right, which he'd find out about six months later. Morin was given a clean bill of health. THE CANADIAN PRESS

DJ Champion was diagnosed with cancer but he was convinced it wasn't his time to die — yet. PAUL CHIASSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Liam Hemsworth. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Hemsworth's bros pushed for breakup

After weeks of breakup rumours, Miley Cyrus and fiancé Liam Hemsworth have reportedly called it quits, according to Us Weekly.

"They are definitely over," a source says.

The split was apparently precipitated by Hemsworth's older brothers, Chris and Luke, staging an intervention about his love life in April.

Cyrus and Hemsworth have been engaged since July.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Settle down Twihards — Rob and Katy just friends

Robert Pattinson has been leaning a lot on pal Katy Perry in the wake of his split from Kristen Stewart — so much so that it's beginning to turn heads.

But sources insist to E! News that their pairing is strictly platonic.

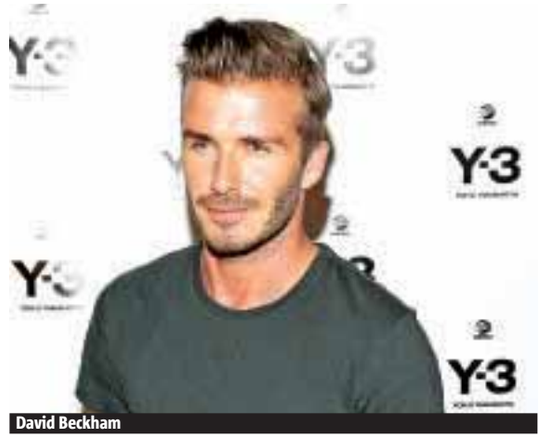
"Nothing is going on between Rob and Katy. They are just super-good friends. There is nothing romantic about it," a source says.

"Rob and Katy are just very similar people and she adores him, as a friend, and she just wants to be there for him as a mate."

As for Pattinson's relationship coming to an end, the Twilight star is reportedly taking it in stride.

"Rob is doing fine since the breakup," the source adds.

"He is not particularly cut up about it or anything. He is doing just fine."



David Beckham

Grill it like Beckham

With his days playing soccer behind him, David Beckham is clearly on the lookout for new ways to spend his time.

One way, as it turns out, is teaming with pal Gordon Ramsay to open a sports bar and grill in the Wynn Hotel in Las Vegas, according to the Sun.

"The Strip has never seen such fierce competition for food, but Gordon's places are full seven nights a week," a source tells the newspaper.

"When you add David Beckham's global status into the mix it has the potential to be the most talked about restaurant in Vegas."

But not so fast, everybody. Beckham's rep insists that the rumours of the Vegas joint venture are completely unfounded, though they are opening a London restaurant, Union Street Cafe, in September.

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This campfire classic can be easily jazzed up. All you need is a few extra ingredients and creativity.

Toasted Mocha

- 1 marshmallow
- 1-oz piece dark chocolate with espresso
- 2 snickerdoodle cookies

Toast marshmallow on skewer. Place it and chocolate between snickerdoodles, using top cookie to clamp marshmallow in place and help remove it from skewer. Squish the cookies together.

Sesame Carmel

- 1 marshmallow
- 1-oz piece caramel-filled chocolate
- 2 pieces sesame crisp bread

Toast marshmallow on skewer. Carefully put it and caramel-filled chocolate between crisp bread, using top piece to clamp the marshmallow in place and help remove it from skewer. Squish crisps together.

Salted Oatmeal

- 1 marshmallow
- 1-oz piece sea salted dark chocolate
- 1 square soft caramel, flattened with your palms
- 2 oatmeal cookies

Toast marshmallow on skewer and place it, chocolate and caramel between cookies, using top cookie to clamp marshmallow in place. Squish cookies together.

Double Choco Grasshopper

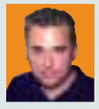
- 1 marshmallow
- 2 mint-filled chocolates
- 2 chocolate graham crackers

Toast marshmallow on skewer. Place it and chocolates between graham crackers, using the top cracker to help remove marshmallow from skewer. Squish.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Liquid Assets

Grown-up apple juice



LIQUID ASSETS
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Rejoice apple lovers, for I predict this will be the summer of cider.

It's been a long time coming in Canada. You'd think that as an apple-producing country, fermented apple juice would be a hot commodity. But unlike our drinking compatriots in Europe, we've relegated it to second tier beverage status.

You don't have to be a Coronation Street fan to know Brits enjoy a pint of the thirst-quenching stuff — it's an on-tap standard at pubs across the U.K.

Since they are both easy-drinkers, I've no doubt that there's a correlation between the exploding craft beer industry and the way consumers are embracing the wave of specialty cider hitting our shores.

Foundry Golden Cider (500 ml, $3 to $3.95) is a tasty place to start. Classically English, it offers a dry, crisp apple fruit flavour with a touch of effervescence that makes it a great seasonal food companion (think anything grilled).

Don't let global brands distract you from the many ciders being produced in your own backyard. This is one trend making it easy to drink local. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

Feeling fruity? Try Blueberry-Peach Parfait

To keep this dessert simple, use vanilla Greek yogurt as the base for your mousse, and fold whipped cream into it for a light, airy texture.

Then layer the mix with lightly sweetened fruit for a pretty and tasty contrast.

The recipe opts for peaches and blueberries, but any berry or diced fruit would work fine. Strawberries and bananas or raspberries and orange segments would be great combinations.

Not feeling fruity? Try a sprinkling of chopped toasted pecans and a touch of prepared caramel sauce between layers.

1. In bowl, combine peaches, blueberries, sugar, lemon juice and salt. Mix gently.

2. In a large bowl, use an electric mixer to beat the cream and powdered sugar until it holds medium peaks. Fold the yogurt into the whipped cream until combined.

3. Spoon a small amount of the fruit mixture into 6 tall parfait glasses, then top with a spoonful of the yogurt mousse. Repeat layering the fruit and mousse until all of the mixtures are used up. Serve immediately. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 cup fresh or thawed sliced peaches, diced
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 tbsp sugar
- 2 tsp lemon juice
- Pinch of salt
- 1 pint heavy cream
- 2 tbsp powdered sugar
- 1 cup non-fat vanilla Greek yogurt

This recipe serves 6. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Let the garden inspire you: Skillet Eggs with Fontina

Serve breakfast inspired by a walk through the garden.

This recipe began with the idea of egg-in-a-hat — sometimes called egg-in-a-basket or a Popeye — in which an egg is cracked into a hole cut in the centre of a slice of bread.

The whole thing is pan-fried, usually just until the white is set and the yolk remains liquid.

This recipe serves two. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The idea is that as you eat it, the yolk breaks and soaks the toast with a warm, creamy sauce.

Instead of toast, use the same idea with a bed of vegetables by sautéing a vegetable hash, then nestling eggs into the centre of it. To amp the flavour, toss in some prosciutto and cheese. The result is not only beautiful, but also healthy and satisfying.

1. In a large nonstick skillet over medium, heat the olive oil. Add the prosciutto and onion and sauté until the onion is tender, about 5 minutes. Add the Swiss chard and zucchini and cook for another 5 to 6 minutes, or until the vegetables are tender and beginning to brown.

2. Add the tomatoes and season with salt and pepper. Stir well, then arrange the vegetables in an even layer. Using a spoon, create 4 wells in the vegetables, each about 2 inches across. Crack an egg into each well. Cover the skillet and cook until just shy of desired doneness, about 3 to 4 minutes.

3. Sprinkle the cheese over the vegetables and eggs, then cover and cook for another minute. Use a spatula to transfer half of the vegetables and 2 eggs onto each plate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 2 slices prosciutto, chopped
- 1 small red onion, chopped
- 2 cups chopped Swiss chard
- 1/2 small zucchini, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup halved cherry or grape tomatoes
- Salt and ground black pepper
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup grated fontina cheese

Breakfast on the go. French Toast Fingers

1. In a small bowl, whisk eggs, orange rind and juice; set aside.

2. Match 4 pairs of bread slices. With 2 slices stacked on top of each other, trim crusts from each pair (reserve crusts for another use or discard). Spread 15 ml (1 tbsp) jam on 1 slice of each pair; place second slice on top. Cut each sandwich into 3 even strips. Dip sandwiches into egg mixture, flipping to coat both sides.

3. Spray large non-stick skillet or griddle with cooking spray. Heat skillet over medium heat. Cook sandwiches on both sides until golden brown, 2 minutes. Dust with icing sugar; serve with maple syrup for dipping.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ EGG FARMERS OF CANADA

Ingredients

- 4 eggs
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) grated orange rind
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) orange juice
- 8 slices whole-wheat bread
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) low-sugar strawberry jam
- Icing sugar and maple syrup

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Good nutrition for man's best friend

Healthy diet. Select high-quality, reputable commercial food for your canine companion

MICHELLE WILLIAMS
For Metro

Select a diet specific to your pet's needs to ensure it lives a healthy life. DEKLOFENAK/VEER

It's difficult watching your dog woefully begging for a few of your table scraps. While it might be tempting to scrape your plate into Fido's bowl, is it really a good idea?

"Dogs have distinct nutritional needs, different from humans," said Dr. Donna Curtin, a board member with the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association and a veterinarian with a specific expertise and interest in dog nutrition. "Studies show that after two or three months of eating food that is not specifically prepared or formulated for dogs, they become nutrient deficient."

In order to ensure your dog enjoys a healthy diet, here are a few things you should be considering when feeding your canine companion.

Feed your dog a balanced diet. All-meat diets, table scraps or dog foods that are not optimally formulated to meet a dog's nutritional needs are not the best choices. "Select a high-quality, reputable, commercial food for your dog," Curtin said. "They're formulated to ensure your dog receives all the valuable nutrients he can absorb."

Hard and soft foods are both good for your pet. According to Curtin, "both are good, and if your dog learns to eat both then neither will be strange or foreign." Some dog owners worry that canned food isn't good for their dog's teeth, but Curtin says otherwise. "Canned food doesn't cause dental disease any more than kibble. If you're looking for a food that helps the teeth, there are diets specifically formulated to clean them."

Select a diet specific to your pet's needs. Pick a formulation that works best for your dog's needs. "Work with your veterinarian to determine the best formulation for your dog based on his specific age, breed and health concerns," Curtin said.

How much is too much?

"If dog food is formulated by a reputable company, you can follow the guidelines on the packaging," said Dr. Donna Curtin, a board member with the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association. "Dog food companies have done feeding trials to ensure they know how much you should be giving your dog."

However, consider such things as your dog's age and lifestyle — if your pet is sedentary or older it may not need as much food.

MICHELLE WILLIAMS

Feed your dog at specific feeding times, don't just leave food down all the time. ANDRESR/VEER

Feeding time. Don't let Rover go overboard

Feeding your dog should be simple, so here are some easy ways you can optimize your pet's diet and lifestyle.

1 Don't leave the food down all the time. Just feed your dog at their specific feeding time. "Dogs won't self-regulate, which means they can end up eating too much and becoming obese," said Dr. Donna Curtin, an Ontario Veterinary Medical Association board member and veterinarian with a specific expertise and interest in dog nutrition.

2 Keep the water bowl clean. It's vital that your dog always has a ready supply of clean water. Be sure to top it up after your dog has been active or spent time outside in the summer heat. "This is especially true for little dogs, because it dilutes their urine and makes them less prone to urinary crystals, which form together to make bladder stones," Curtin said.

3 Watch the treats. "Dog treats are formulated to be given to your pet occasionally, so limit treats to once or twice daily," Curtin said. Filling up on treats may make your dog lose interest in its meals, so consider a game of fetch, a belly rub or a cuddle — your dog will love that just as much.

4 Get healthy together. Walk your dog at least once a day to keep your pet's heart, bones and muscles healthy and to help maintain a healthy weight. Just letting your dog out in the backyard won't ensure it gets the exercise it needs. Get out and walk, throw a ball or play a game of soccer together. "It's great pet bonding time, too," Curtin said. And keeping your dog active means you are exercising, too, which benefits you both. MICHELLE WILLIAMS

Maintaining a healthy weight

- You want to be sure your dog maintains a healthy weight — that means "you should be able to see your dog's 'waist' and you should easily be able to feel her ribs," said Dr. Donna Curtin, a board member with the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association. If not, you may reconsider what you feed your dog and how much you are feeding it. Don't forget that if your dog has weight challenges, it's also important to add more exercise to its routine.

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Blackhawks captain Jonathan Toews will need to hold his team together as the Kings look to pick them apart in Game 1 Saturday. PAUL SANCYA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blackhawks back in Presidential form

NHL playoffs. Relentless squad starting to regain regular-season steam as they prepare to face the Kings Saturday at home

In case there were any doubts, the Chicago Blackhawks are showing they can be resilient as well as dominant.

They made it look easy in the regular season. But they have had to dig deep in the playoffs.

The Blackhawks dug their way out of a 3-1 deficit in the Western Conference semifinals to take the series in seven games, beating the rival Detroit Red Wings 2-1 on Brent Seabrook's overtime goal Wednesday night.

They will now face the defending champion Los Angeles Kings in what could be another difficult series for a team eyeing its second Stanley Cup in four seasons. Game 1 of the conference finals is in Chicago on Saturday.

"It's not the way you want to win a series, going down three games to one," captain Jonathan Toews said. "But to come out on top given the situation we were in three games ago, it shows the character that we have on top of the ability and the potential.... We need to use the ability and the confidence this gives us."

No team made it look easier in the regular season than the Blackhawks, who got off to a record start and captured the Presidents' Trophy. But it's been a different story in the playoffs.

They came in looking for more after back-to-back first-round exits following their championship run in 2010. They took out Minnesota in five games and were looking good after a 4-1 win over Detroit in Game 1, but the series turned in a big way after that. The Blackhawks managed just two goals in Games 2 through 4 and found themselves facing elimination.

The team came back to outscore the Red Wings 10-5 over the final three games and became the 25th team to win a series after falling behind 3-1. It was the first time a Chicago team had done it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2014 Olympics

Billions in Sochi money stolen by officials: Critic

Russian officials and businessmen have stolen billions of dollars during the years of preparations for the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi, a prominent Russian opposition figure claimed Thursday.

Boris Nemtsov, a former Russian deputy prime minister turned Kremlin critic, and an associate said in a report released Thursday that up to $30 billion US was stolen in the run-up to the games in the southern Russian city.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennis

Former French Open champ upset in 2nd round

Interrupted by a rain delay, 2011 French Open champion Li Na lost to American Bethanie Mattek-Sands 5-7, 6-3, 6-2 in the second round at Roland Garros on Thursday.

Following the second delay of the match, Mattek-Sands won seven consecutive games to take a 5-love lead in the final set. She served out the victory with the sun shining and rain falling.

Li was seeded sixth. Since winning her lone major title, she has lost in the first or second round at four of the eight Grand Slams.

Mattek-Sands, ranked 67th, matched her best showing at Roland Garros. She failed to qualify for the Australian Open in January and arrived in Paris with a 10-8 record this year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Riders sign their entire 2013 draft class

On top of signing all seven of their recent draft picks, the Riders also worked out a deal with quarterback Tino Sunseri. JARED WICKERHAM/GETTY IMAGES

The Saskatchewan Roughriders have their entire 2013 draft class under contract.

The Riders announced Thursday they've signed all seven draft picks, including offensive lineman Corey Watman, who they took fourth overall in the 2013 CFL draft.

Also signing were offensive linemen Matt Vonk (fifth round) and Eric Armitage (seventh round), receiver Alex Anthony (fifth round), defensive lineman Levi Steinhauer (fifth round), fullback Spencer Moore (fifth round) and linebacker Thomas Spoletini (sixth round).

In the works

Brendan Taman also said he made a contract offer to former Rider John Chick, a defensive lineman.

"It's very challenging sometimes to go into a draft and get guys not only picked in the right spots but get them to sign," said Riders GM Brendan Taman. "I think if you can get them all signed it's really good and we were able to do that.

"I think we're probably one of the few teams that did so obviously to get them all here and in town is good."

The Riders also signed quarterback Tino Sunseri, a rookie out of the University of Pittsburgh.

Taman said of the seven draft picks signed, he figured two or three have a legitimate shot at making the CFL team's roster. THE CANADIAN PRESS

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You will be in a social mood today and you are advised to get whatever obligations you have out of the way quickly so you can focus on more interesting things — and people. Friends are fun, and so are you.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
It may feel as if your life is in limbo but don't worry about it. You will soon be moving in the right direction. The road may at times be tough but you're tough enough to walk it.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
If you let people know what it is you are planning, you make it easier for them to compete with you, so keep it to yourself for the time being. Knowledge is power and power is not something you just give away.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
If you focus on negative thoughts then, inevitably, you will get negative results. As Mars moves into the most sensitive area of your chart today, you must be positive in every possible way.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You are in an aggressive mood and it's likely that someone you encounter today will bring out the worst in you. Try to remember though that not everyone is your enemy.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
As Mars moves into the career area of your chart today, you may find yourself looking over your shoulder more often than you should. "Enemies" cannot do anything to hurt you.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
No matter how many little things may have gone wrong, big things are still going well and will continue to move in your favour. The world is a wonderful place — and getting better by the minute.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Focus on the good things in life. According to the planets, you can't do a thing wrong at the moment — and even if you do, Mercury will help you talk your way out of it.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Your luck seems to be in at the moment and you would not be human if you did not take advantage of it. Don't listen to those who say it is immoral to succeed while others fail.

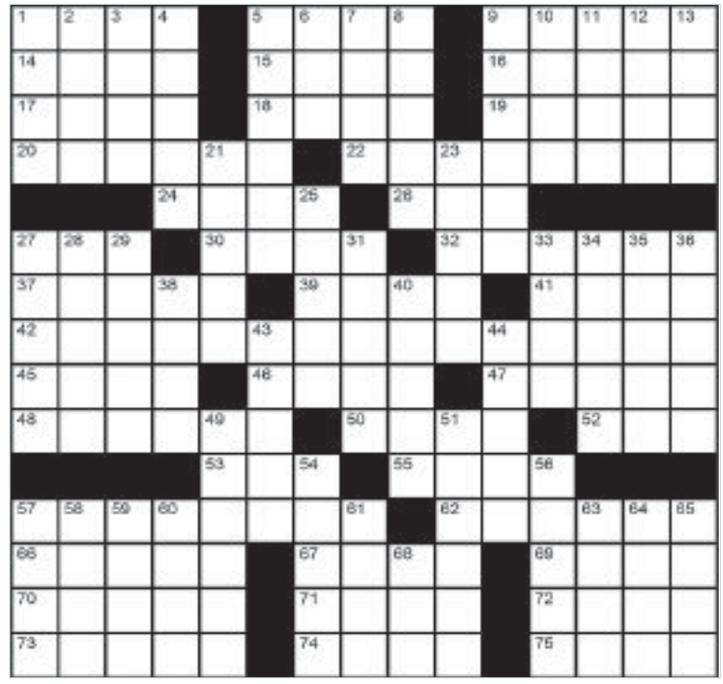
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Look at the world and see what a wonderful place it is. With a little bit of optimism, you can achieve some extraordinary things. What might you achieve with a lot?

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Find ways to combine words and actions. With Mars, planet of energy, moving in your favour there is nothing you cannot do if you put your mind to it. And there's the only problem: you seem distracted.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
If someone gives you a tough time today, you must take them on. If you let them get away with saying untrue things, they will take it as a sign of weakness. Stand up for yourself. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

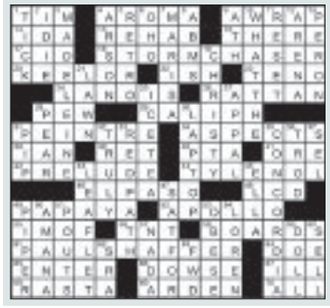
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Chatters
5. "Ah, me."
9. Bedding linen
14 Rush, office-style
15. Do some road-work
16. Mr. Pig
17. Fodder holder
18. Ransack
19. Boring tool
20. The Rachel, in the 1990s, for one
22. Alberta's provincial flower: 2 wds.
24. Office fill-in worker
26. Scottish negative
27. Cave's ceiling clinger
30. "Want to make __?"
32. __ and bass (Stereo knobs)
37. Like the potatoes in the pot
39. Scooby's sniffer
41. Alex Rodriguez, to baseball fans
42. k.d. lang hit: 2 wds.
45. Cooking show appliance
46. Swerve
47. Slim spot to sit on
48. Get comfy
50. Shania Twain's ex-hubby Mr. Lange
52. R's spelled-out follower
53. Ceramics, for example
55. Bar beverage
57. Ontario hometown of The Tragically Hip
62. Typos
66. "Chasing Pavements" songstress
67. Charlize Theron movie, "__ Flux" (2005)
69. Exuberance
70. Happen again
71. Beach volleyball surface
72. Birthday dessert
73. The Great __
74. Cafeteria carrier
75. Understood

Down
1. Large cut
2. "Heat of the Moment" band
3. Island of Indonesia
4. Football, for example
5. Poise
6. Philosopher, __-tzu
7. Profess
8. __ stone (Cannot be changed): 2 wds.
9. "Boston Legal" actor James
10. "This __ Has 22 Minutes" on CBC
11. Thus
12. __ out a living
13. Ancient port of Lebanon
21. Gave out
23. Afterwards
25. Short-tubed pasta
27. John Candy comedy, "Canadian __" (1995)
28. Over
29. Hues
31. __ pole
33. Roof part
34. Wedding gown wearer
35. Yearns
36. Boundaries
38. "__ She Lovely" by Stevie Wonder
40. Surgeon's pre-surgery cleanse
43. Deflect
44. Vary
49. Cosmetic surgery tools
51. Like followers of fads
54. Wedding reception salute
56. Sunken ship
57. Communist, __ Marx
58. Brain wave
59. Spot for some jewelry
60. Sticky stuff
61. By
63. The __ Parsons Project
64. __ 1, as per movie scene filming
65. From the start again
68. "__ _ Carousel" by The Hollies

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

7				1				3
	3				6	1	5	
	8		4	9				
	5					3		
1		8				5		2
		6					4	
				2	1		7	
	1	2	9				8	
9				4				1

Yesterday's Sudoku

1	6	8	3	5	9	4	2	7
4	5	9	7	2	6	3	1	8
7	2	3	4	1	8	9	6	5
2	7	5	9	8	1	6	3	4
3	9	6	5	7	4	2	8	1
8	4	1	2	6	3	7	5	9
6	1	7	8	9	2	5	4	3
9	8	4	6	3	5	1	7	2
5	3	2	1	4	7	8	9	6

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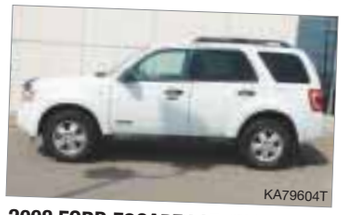

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2008 Chev Cobalt 2 Door Coupe LT STOCK #317141RP	$7,795*	2009 Pontiac Wave STOCK #135255T	$7,969*
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2009 Chev Aveo 5 Door LT STOCK #132345T	$8,209*	2005 Pontiac Montana EXT STOCK #109036T	$4,999*
2003 Chev Impala LS STOCK #311744T	$5,981*	2005 Ford Focus ZX5 SES STOCK #318843T	$8,521*
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